THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

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Isamu Noguchi, the internationally renowned sculptor, will be in Cleveland on Sunday, February 8, 1976 to talk about his work at The Cleveland Museum of Art. His lecture will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Recital Hall on the Museum's classroom level, and is free and open to the public.

Originally planned for late November, the lecture was rescheduled because of the artist's illness. It is the last in a series of lectures, exhibitions and related events in the Sculpture Directions '75 program sponsored jointly by the Museum and Case Western Reserve University.

Noguchi, the son of an American mother and a Japanese father, was born in Los Angeles in 1904. He spent his childhood in Japan, returning to the United States to go to school when he was 13.

At the age of 21 he first saw the sculpture of Constantin Brancusi and was deeply impressed by the harmony and simplicity of its forms. As one of the earliest Guggenheim Fellows he went to Paris in 1927 to work as Brancusi's assistant.

Two years later Noguchi returned to the U.S. His first one man show was held the same year at the Eugene Schoen Gallery, New York. Subsequently, his sculpture has been widely exhibited, and is included in major museum and private collections both in this country and abroad, among them those of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Modern Museum in Kamakura, Japan, and the Tate Gallery, London.

(more)

His white marble Woman with Child (1958) was acquired by the Cleveland Museum for its contemporary collection in 1966.

During his long, distinguished career Noguchi has worked in virtually every sculptural medium: wood, stone, bone, paper, metal, clay, plastic, glass and light. The forms he has given his work are just as eclectic; yet all display a distinctive poetic quality that sets them apart from the work of all others.

Noguchi's vision goes beyond the purely sculptural, as well. He has created complete environments through his design of gardens, playgrounds, urban plazas, furniture, and even sets and costumes for the ballet.

Among the best known of these projects are the gardens for the UNESCO Building in Paris and the Chase Manhattan Plaza in New York; the Detroit Civic Center Plaza and Horace E. Dodge & Son Memorial Fountain; the fountains and entrance sculpture at Tokyo's Museum of Modern Art.

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